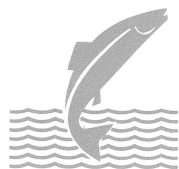


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Existing Regulatory Measure
concerning Transportation and
Release of Salmonids, Prevention
of Fish Diseases and Genetic
mixing of Salmon stocks

Eintak bókasafns

VMST-89



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INSTITUTE OF FRESHWATER FISHERIES

VAGNHÖFÐA 7 – 112 REYKJAVÍK – ICELAND

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Institute of Freshwater Fisheries
Vagnhöfði 7, 112 Reykjavík
Iceland

Regulatory measure concerning transportation
and release of salmonids and prevention of
fish diseases and genetic mixing of salmon stocks.

Paragraph 1

Definitions

The following definitions hold throughout the following text:

Enhancement: Any activity intended to sustain or increase salmon populations, including smolt and fry releases, river improvement, fish passes etc.

Fish rearing: Feeding of fish in captivity, salmon ranching, hatching and rearing of juveniles in fresh and saltwater alike.

Fish farm: A place where fish rearing takes place in sea cages and land based units, including salmon ranches.

Land rearing: Rearing of salmonids in land-based tanks often with pumping of seawater.

Salmon ranch: A place, where salmon are released for ranching and recaptured in traps after their oceanic feeding migration.

Salmon ranching: The act of releasing hatchery smolts and their recapture upon freshwater return after their oceanic migration.

Salmon stock: Group of salmon spawning together in a specific place during a specific period and interbreeds to no extent with other populations.

Wild salmon stock: Group of salmon which is the progeny of natural spawning in a stream.

Rearing stock: Group of salmon which are the progeny of captive salmon and have acclimated to rearing conditions.

Ranching stock: Group of salmon which are the progeny of ranched parents.

Sterile stock: Group of salmon which are infertile and can not produce viable offspring.

Paragraph 2

Transport of living wild salmon and their eggs

2.1. Transport of wild salmon alive is prohibited without a permit from the fish disease committee and the fisheries association of the river of origin. Similarly the transport of living wild salmon and their eggs from one watershed to another for storage, spawning or release into the wild is prohibited. The Minister of agriculture can permit the transport of living brood fish between watersheds for temporary storage if recommended by the Fish disease committee. After spawning all these brood fish shall be slaughtered and samples taken for disease analysis as recommended by the Disease committee in each case

2.2. Enhancement in salmon rivers shall be based on indigenous stock. The chairman of each river association must consult the Director of freshwater fisheries before embarking on such activity. The Director of freshwater fisheries can permit the transport of disinfected eggs or resulting progeny for enhancement into streams or lakes with low or nil salmon production, provided that the salmon stocks used are from nearby watersheds of similar character. Enhancement efforts in small streams without salmon which flow into the sea in or close to the estuarine area of a major salmon stream shall be based upon stocks from the major stream or in exceptional cases from nearby streams.

2.3. The Director of freshwater fisheries can permit the transport of wild parr or adult wild fish from a lake or stream into rearing stations, provided that the station has outflow into the watershed

where the fish originate, rearing stocks are not being used and the transport has been approved by the Fish disease committee. The transport of wild salmonids into land stations and sea cages can similarly be permitted by the Director of freshwater fisheries.

Paragraph 3

Transport and release of rearing and ranching stocks.

3.1. Any person intending to start salmon ranching shall seek the advice of the Director of freshwater fisheries. Ranching stations are permitted to use ranching stock from all ranching stations which have been recognized according to par.66, 1, no.76/1970.

3.2. Rearing stations with water supply which has the potential of being contaminated with germs from wild fish shall comply to regulatory measure no.403/1986 with respect to transport of eggs and other living material. Transport shall otherwise comply with this regulatory measure.

3.3. Disinfected eggs and the resulting progeny of Icelandic origin as well as brood fish of reared origin can be transported between rearing stations as long as the transport complies with regulatory measure no 403/1986.

3.4. The transport of salmonids of foreign origin for enhancement and ranching is strictly forbidden. The ministry of agriculture can permit the transport of such stocks between rearing stations upon a recommendation from the director of freshwater fisheries and the fish disease committee.

Paragraph 4

Various provisions

4.1. Exemptions from the following regulations are subject to a written application to the Ministry of agriculture or the Director of freshwater fisheries as appropriate.

4.2. Salmon ranching and enhancement efforts on the north and east coast of Iceland using wild salmon stocks shall use stocks originating from that general area and similar operations on the south and west coasts shall similarly use stocks from that area. The boundaries of the areas are the following:

4.2.1. Southern and western Iceland. Eastern boundaries at Stokknes, northern boundaries at Hornbjarg.

4.2.2. Northern and eastern Iceland. Western boundaries at Bjargtangar, southern boundaries at Ingólfshöfði.

4.2.3. The Director of freshwater fisheries can grant exemptions from those clauses for experimental comparisons of salmon stocks.

4.3. Salmon ranching, landrearing and seacage stations producing salmon shall not be permitted closer than 5 km to salmon streams with an average annual catch exceeding 100 salmon for the last 10 years. For salmon streams with an annual catch exceeding 500 salmon the minimum distance shall be 15 km unless local or sterile stocks are used in which case the distance can be shortened to 5 km. The distance between landbased stations, salmon ranches and sea cages among themselves shall be at least 2 kilometers. Those distances are measured as the crow flies over open water. The director of freshwater fisheries can recommend to shorten those distances upon a mutual request from fish farmers and fisheries associations in the area concerned.

4.4. Salmon ranchers shall microtag 10% of released smolts up to a release of 100 thousand smolts. A minimum figure for larger releases is 10 thousand smolts. Fish farmers using sea cages shall tag at least 1000 salmon with micro- or external tags. Recaptures of these tags in other areas shall form the basis for revision of this regulatory measure.

4.5. The release of adult salmon of ranching or reared origin into rivers and lakes for put and take fishery is not permitted unless a local stock is used. The minister of agriculture can, however, permit such releases upon the recommendation of the fish disease committee and the fisheries association concerned.

Paragraph 5
penalties and implementation

5.1. Violations of this regulatory measure are punishable according to paragraph 97,j-1, in laws no.76/1970 on salmon and trout fishing unless specified otherwise in other laws.

5.2. Violations of this regulatory measure shall be handled according to public law.

5.3. This regulatory measure, which is based on paragraphs 22, 66 and 81 of law no. 76/1970 on salmon and trout fishing, goes into effect immediately and shall be revised before July 1 1990.

Ministry of Agriculture, 12th of July 1988

Jón Helgason (Minister)

Jón Höskuldsson (Attorney)